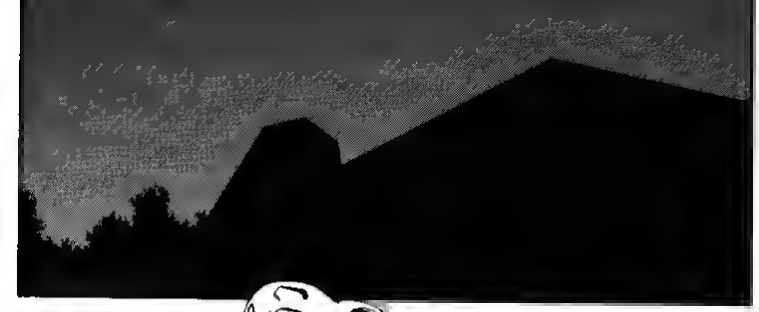
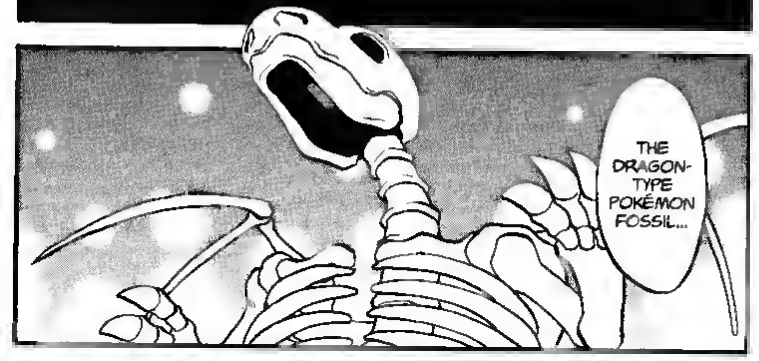
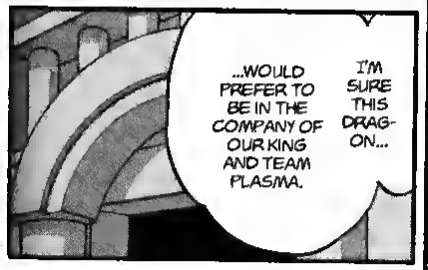
Adventure 15
The Mystery of the Missing Fossil




THE DRAGON-TYPE POKÉMON FOSSIL...

IT'S A SHAME TO PUT IT ON DISPLAY HERE FOR COMMON PEOPLE TO GAWK AT.
POWER FIT FOR A HERO!


...WOULD PREFER TO BE IN THE COMPANY OF OUR KING AND TEAM PLASMA.
I'M SURE THIS DRAG-ON...

HOW THRILL-ING!
APPARENTLY, THIS POOR POKÉMON HAD AN ACCIDENT WHILST FLYING AROUND THE WORLD— AND ENDED UP FOSSILIZED.

I SAID... HEY, BOSS !!!
HEY, BOSS!!
BUT LOOK AT THIS BED! WOULDN'T IT BE JUST PERFECT FOR GIGI'S NAPS?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BLACK?
WHY ARE YOU SHOUTING?
WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED EVERYTHING WE CAME TO NACRENE CITY FOR! SO, COME ON... LET'S HEAD FOR OUR NEXT DESTINATION!!
ALL THIS FURNITURE IS ONE-OF-A-KIND AND HAND-MADE— BY MOI.
OOOOH! THIS IS ADOR-ABLE TOO!
HEY! LET'S CHECK OUT THIS SHOP TOO!
ARGH!!
SO MANY FANCY CAFÉS AND BOU-TIQUES...
THIS CITY IS A LOT OF FUN, ISN'T IT?

MR. HAWES!!
WHAT'LL I DO!
WHAT'LL I DO!
THAT'S THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE NACRENE MUSEUM...
OH DEAR, OH DEAR!!
AIIEEE!! PLEASE! I DESPERATELY NEED YOUR HELP!!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
IT HAS ...?!
IT'S BEEN STOLEN!! SOMEONE TOOK IT LAST NIGHT! I ONLY TOOK MY EYES OFF IT FOR A MOMENT!
WHAT HAP-PENED TO THE DRAGON-TYPE FOSSIL THAT WAS ON DISPLAY HERE?!
HUH?!

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, HON... I MEAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR HAWES!!
SIGH... I'LL BE BACK SOON...

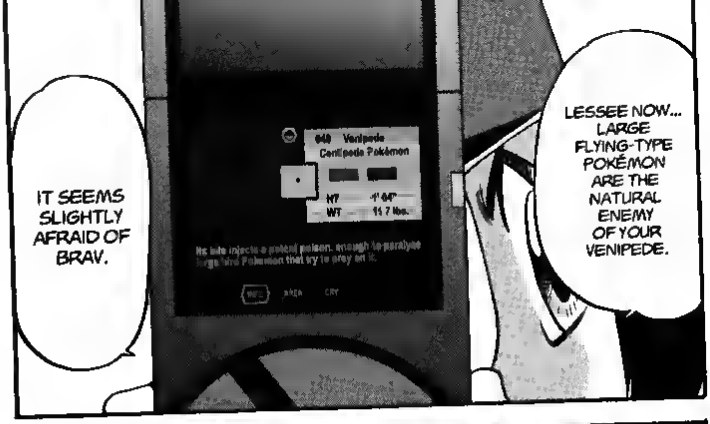
MY ASSIS-TANT, BLACK ...
UM... MR. HAWES... PLEASE CALM DOWN!
A-ALSO... A COUPLE OF OTHER EXHIBITS WERE STOLEN AS WELL.
I'M SO SORRY, LENORA ...

...IS INVESTI-GATING THE SCENE OF THE CRIME AS WE SPEAK!

WAIT, BLACK -!!
YOU STAY HERE IN CASE THEY COME BACK FOR MORE!
I'M GOING AFTER THEM!!
TMP
UN-CHOMP
THE THIEVES ARE HEADED WEST. AND THEY HAVEN'T GOTTEN VERY FAR.
R... REALLY ?!
IF THEY DO COME BACK... WHAT COULD THE TWO OF US POSSIBLY DO ABOUT IT?
MAYBE THIS WILL SLOW YOU DOWN.
YOU'RE IN AN AWFUL HURRY.
HEY... YOU THERE!

ROLL ROLL ROLL
TRIP
WHOA!!
WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR...?!
BOOM
MY NAME IS BURGH.
BURGH THE ARTIST.
YOU'RE INVESTIGATING THE THEFT AT THE MUSEUM, RIGHT? I'LL JOIN YOU.
MY APOLOGIES I JUST WANTED TO STOP YOU SO WE COULD TALK...

NO.
WAIT UP! AREN'T YOU CURIOUS WHY I KNOW ABOUT THE THEFT?
I WAS SUFFERING FROM A BAD CASE OF ARTIST'S BLOCK ANYWAY.
THE TRUTH IS, LENORA CALLED ME TO HELP WITH THE INVESTIGATION.
OKAY, FINE. I'LL LET YOU IN ON A LITTLE SECRET THEN.
YOU AREN'T.
WHAT IF I'M THE THIEF?
I'M HOPING THIS CRIME WILL PROVIDE SOME INSPIRATION FOR MY WORK.
THOUGHT SOME FRESH AIR MIGHT DO ME GOOD... YOU KNOW HOW IT IS.
FWIP
I DON'T DISLIKE YOU.
WHY DON'T YOU LIKE ME?
HMPH... THAT'S SOME ATTITUDE YOU'VE GOT THERE.
MY, MY MY...
OH MY...
TUP TUP TUP


LESSEE NOW... LARGE FLYING-TYPE POKÉMON ARE THE NATURAL ENEMY OF YOUR VENIPEDE.
049 Venipede
Centipede Pokémon
HT 1' 04"
WT 11.7 lbs.
IT SEEMS SLIGHTLY AFRAID OF BRAV.

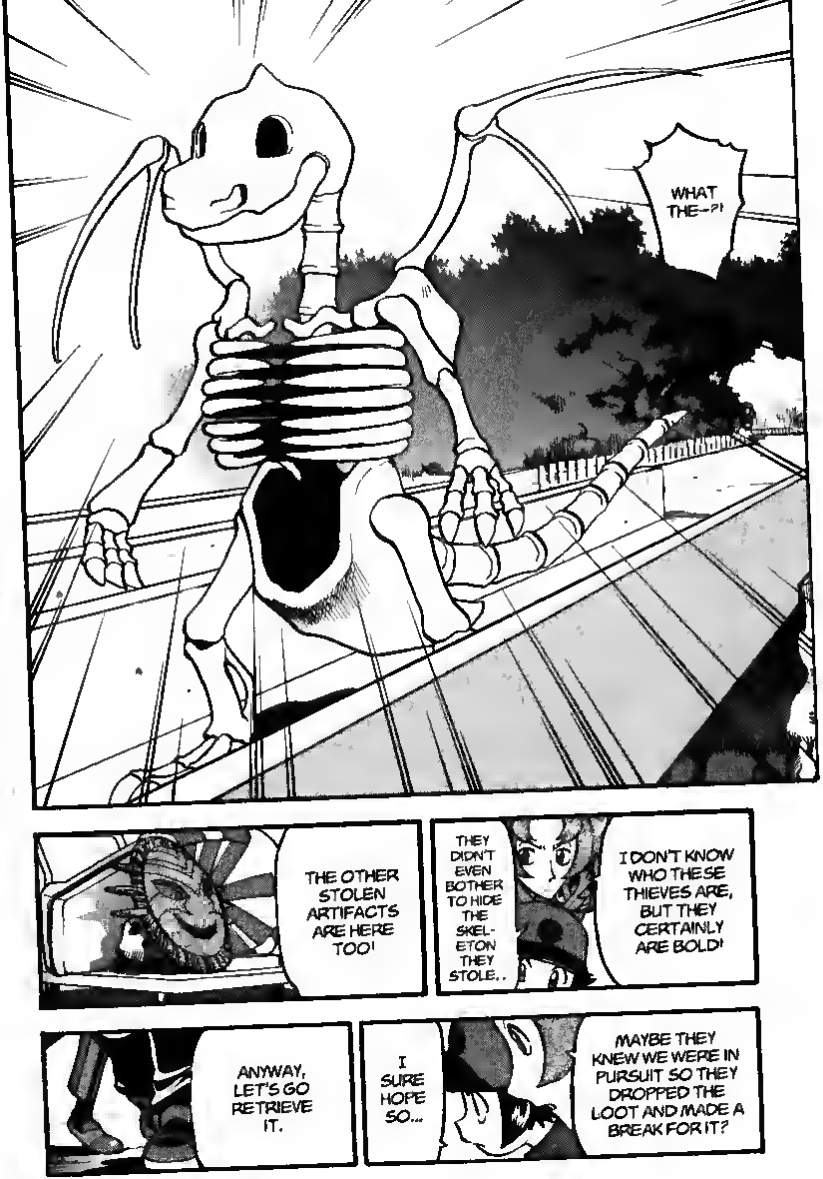
HM...
YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT YOUR POKÉMON.

PROBABLY AFRAID OF GETTING POISONED, SINCE VENIPEDE IS SO POWERFUL.
BRAV NOTICED THAT TOO, SO IT'S KEEPING ITS DISTANCE FROM VENIPEDE.

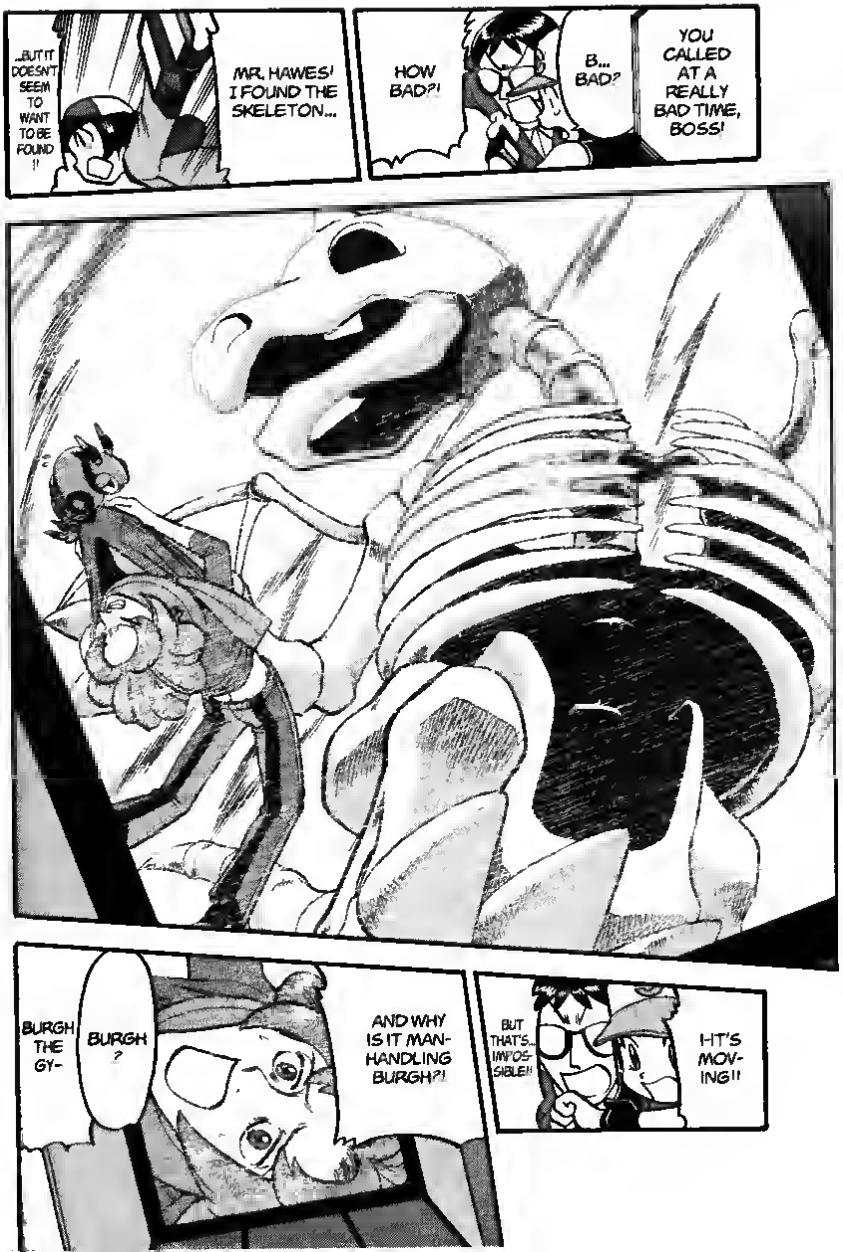
YEP! I MET BRAV FOR THE FIRST TIME WHEN—
SO YOU'VE KNOWN YOUR BRAVI-ARY FOR A LONG TIME?

WE'RE FRIENDS. WE SHARE A DREAM OF WINNING THE POKÉMON LEAGUE TOGETHER!!
OF COURSE I DO.

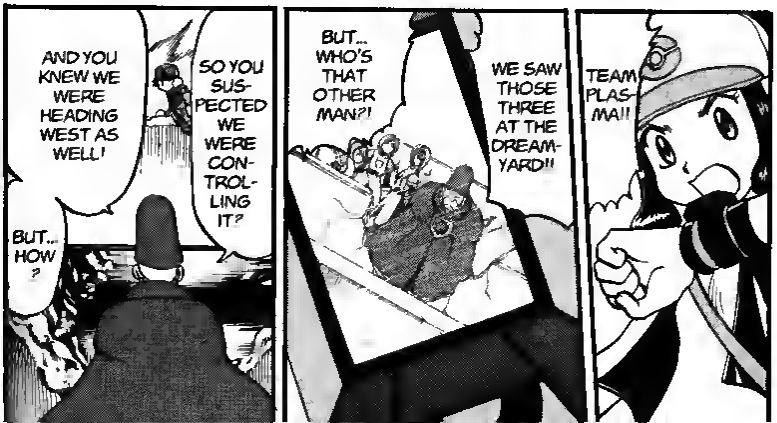
I'VE FOUND IT!
BURGH! YOU'VE GOT TO HIDE— NOW!

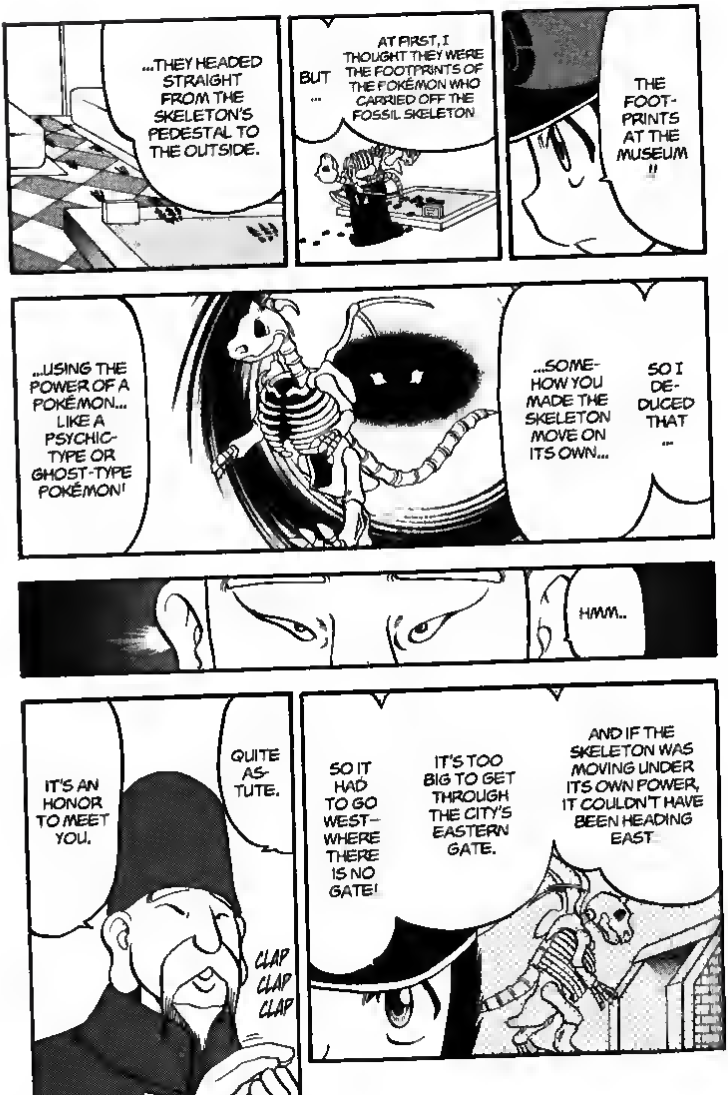

WHAT THE--?!
I DON'T KNOW WHO THESE THIEVES ARE, BUT THEY CERTAINLY ARE BOLD!
THEY DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO HIDE THE SKELETON THEY STOLE..
THE OTHER STOLEN ARTIFACTS ARE HERE TOO!
MAYBE THEY KNEW WE WERE IN PURSUIT SO THEY DROPPED THE LOOT AND MADE A BREAK FOR IT?
I SURE HOPE SO...
ANYWAY, LET'S GO RETRIEVE IT.

Squea
Squea
Squ
!!
WHOA...
THIS IS AN INSPIRING IMAGE!
WHAT THE-?!
squea...
HI, BLACK! HOW'S IT GOING?
VWOOO
FINE. I'LL GIVE HIM A BUZZ.
WAHHHH! HOW IS BLACK GETTING ALONG? DID HE FIND THE SKELETON OR DIDN'T HE? IF HE DOESN'T FIND IT, LENORA IS GOING TO SHOUT AT ME! WELL, MISS WHITE? HOW IS HE PROGRESSING?
I'M GOING TO SHOUT AT YOU IN A MIN-UTE...


..BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM TO WANT TO BE FOUND !!
MR. HAWES! I FOUND THE SKELETON...
HOW BAD?!
B... BAD?
YOU CALLED AT A REALLY BAD TIME, BOSS!
BURGH THE GY-
BURGH ?
AND WHY IS IT MAN-HANDLING BURGH?!
BUT THAT'S... IMPOS-SIBLE!!
IT'S MOV-ING!!

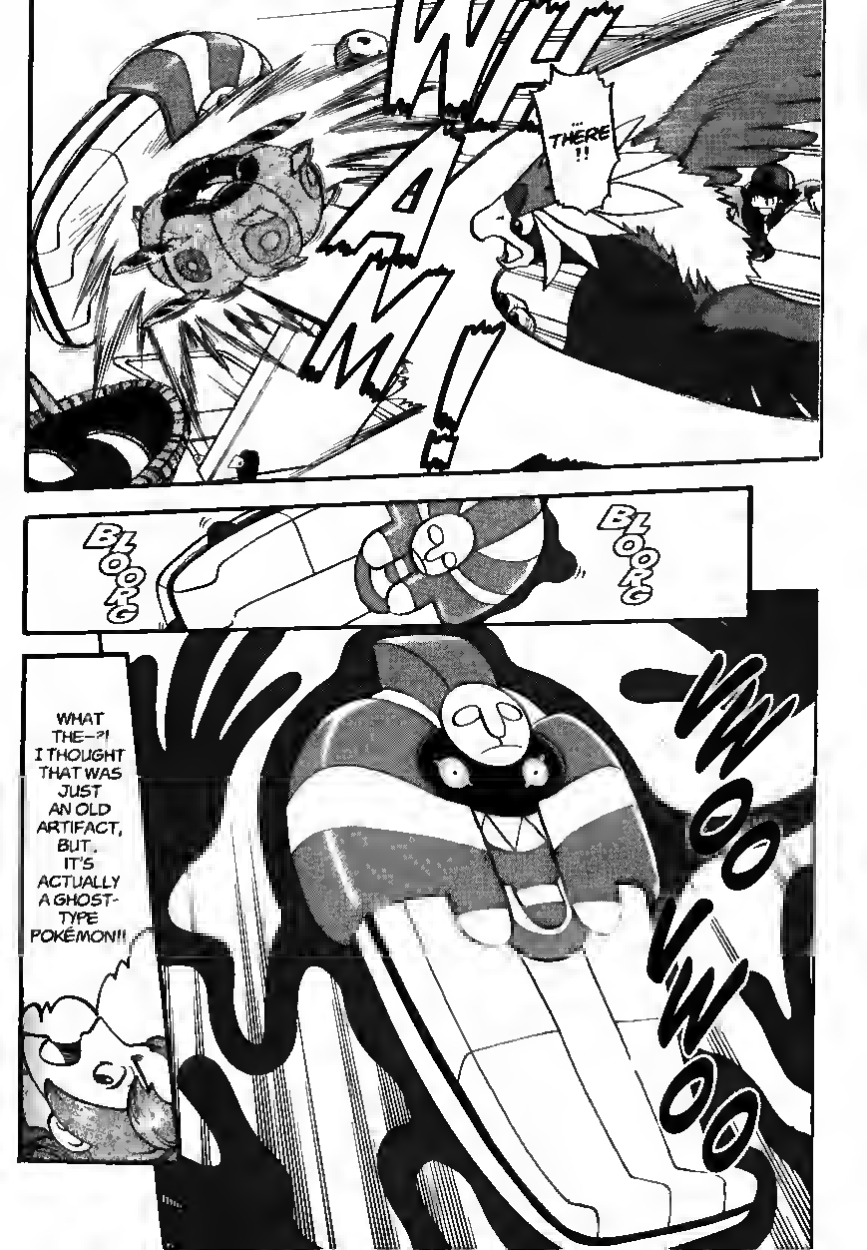
AIIEEE!! THIS IS CRAZY!!
BUT KIND OF AVANT-GARDE AT THE SAME TIME!!
CALM DOWN, BURGH !!
LET ME GO! I SAID, LET ME GO!!
ACTU-ALLY... I WOULDN'T MIND GETTING RESCUED TOO!!
ON THE OTH-ER HAND ..
YEP! I'M DEFI-NITELY GETTING INSPIRED !!
WHATEVER'S MAKING THIS SKELETON WALK MUST BE SOME-WHERE NEARBY!!
NO SKELETON COULD MOVE LIKE THIS ALL ON ITS OWN!!
AS I SUS-PECTED ALL ALONG ...!!
HEY! WHO-EVER'S BEHIND THIS -
SHOW YOUR-SELVES !!
KA-KA-KA-KA


TEAM PLASMA!!
WE SAW THOSE THREE AT THE DREAM-YARD!!
BUT... WHO'S THAT OTHER MAN?!
SO YOU SUS-PECTED WE WERE CON-TROL-LING IT?
AND YOU KNEW WE WERE HEADING WEST AS WELL!
BUT... HOW?

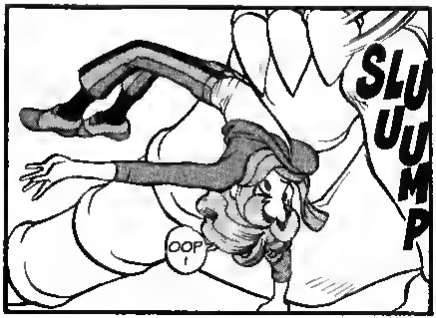

...THEY HEADED STRAIGHT FROM THE SKELETON'S PEDESTAL TO THE OUTSIDE.
BUT ...
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT THEY WERE THE FOOTPRINTS OF THE POKÉMON WHO CARRIED OFF THE FOSSIL SKELETON
THE FOOT-PRINTS AT THE MUSEUM !!
...USING THE POWER OF A POKÉMON... LIKE A PSYCHIC-TYPE OR GHOST-TYPE POKÉMON!
...SOME-HOW YOU MADE THE SKELETON MOVE ON ITS OWN...
SO I DE-DUCED THAT ...
HMM..
IT'S AN HONOR TO MEET YOU.
QUITE AS-TUTE.
CLAP CLAP CLAP
SO IT HAD TO GO WEST— WHERE THERE IS NO GATE!
IT'S TOO BIG TO GET THROUGH THE CITY'S EASTERN GATE.
AND IF THE SKELETON WAS MOVING UNDER ITS OWN POWER, IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN HEADING EAST.

THIS BOY IS EVERY-THING YOU RE-PORTED HIM TO BE.
IT WOULD BE BET-TER...
...IF HE DID NOT EXIST.
THERE'S JUST ONE THING I HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT YET!!
WHERE IS THE POKÉMON WHO'S ANIMATING THIS SKEL-ETON?!
JUDGING FROM HOW FAST AND ACCU-RATELY THE SKELETON ATTACKED ME...
...THE CON-TROL-LING POKÉ-MON MUST BE ABLE TO SEE IT CLEAR-LY!!
WHICH MEANS... I OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO SEE IT CLEARLY TOO!!
HOOK

IT'S ALL OR NOTHING NOW!!
OKAY...
LAUNCH YOUR WHIRLIPEDE AT ME AGAIN— AT TOP SPEED!!
BURGH!! I NEED YOUR HELP!!
MY REAL TARGET IS...
ROLL ROLL ROLL
LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE THIS FRACAS IS INSPIRING!
!!
GO, WHIRLIPEDE!!
WILL DO!


WHAM!
THERE!!
BLOORG
BLOORG
WHAT THE-?! I THOUGHT THAT WAS JUST AN OLD ARTIFACT, BUT, IT'S ACTUALLY A GHOST-TYPE POKÉMON!!
WOOOOOO

THERE WEREN'T ANY ANCIENT COFFINS ON THE LIST OF STOLEN ITEMS.
COME BACK, COFA-GRIGUS!!
WHIRLI-PEDE !!
PUR-SUIT!!
OOM
TH


SLUUMP
OOP!

klatter

HOW WILL WE ACHIEVE OUR DREAM, OUR KING'S DREAM, NOW?!
WAAAH..! AFTER ALL OUR HARD WORK STEALING THAT FOSSIL!!

WE'RE TAKING ALL THE MUSEUM EXHIBITS BACK.
PHEW !!
TUP!

..THIS FOSSIL IS NOT THE ONE WE SEEK AFTER ALL.
IT APPEARS...

DON'T WORRY, COMRADES. LIKE YOU, I HAVE PLEDGED ALLEGIANCE TO OUR KING.

"A HERO SHALL ARISE TO LEAD THE WORLD, AND A POKÉMON WILL APPEAR TO FIGHT BY THAT HERO'S SIDE."
THE DRAGON-TYPE POKÉMON TEAM PLASMA SEEKS... LIES ELSEWHERE!!
OH!! MASTER GORM OF THE SEVEN SAGES...
FWUUUU
FASH!
AND NOW I TAKE MY LEAVE

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL ADVENTURE!!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT... I MYSELF HAVE BEEN ARTISTICALLY INSPIRED TO CREATE NEW MASTERPIECES!
AW, SHUCKS... IT WAS NOTHIN'..
Y-YOU GOT THE FOSSIL BACK!! LENORA WILL BE EVER SO PLEASED!!
THAT'S RIGHT... I WAS JUST GOING WITH THE FLOW BACK THERE, BUT...
YOUR WHIRLIPEDE'S ATTACK WAS AMAZING TOO, BURGH!
UM YEAH...
HOW COULD YOU TELL?
...YOU LURED ME INTO HELPING YOU SO YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO BRING OUT YOUR OTHER POKÉMON, DIDN'T YOU?
WHIRLIPEDE IS A GREAT FIT FOR AN EXPERIENCED TRAINER LIKE YOU!!
...YOU'RE THE GYM LEADER OF CASTELIA CITY!
AFTER ALL... I'LL BE BATTLING YOU SOONER OR LATER, SINCE...
I DIDN'T WANT TO REVEAL ALL THE TRICKS UP MY SLEEVE JUST YET!

OF COURSE!! I'VE DONE MY RESEARCH! I KNOW ALL ABOUT ALL THE GYM LEADERS... BECAUSE I PLAN TO WIN THE POKÉMON LEAGUE!!
WHA—?!
YOU KNEW?!
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING!
SEE YOU IN CASTELIA CITY!!
DON'T THINK I'LL GO EASY ON YOU DURING OUR GYM BATTLE!
HA HA!

...IS PLAYING TRICKS ON US...
MAY-BE FATE..
"A DRAGON-TYPE POKÉ-MON..." HMM...
"A HERO SHALL RISE TO LEAD THE WORLD."
... TEAM PLAS-MA.
ACTUALLY, I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT...